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Department of State,  
Washington, July 16, 1880.

A. Londen Snowden, Esq.,

Superintendent of the Mint,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,

Sir:

I have received the three photographs of designs for the obverse of a medal proposed to be issued for presentation to foreign seamen who assist in rescues from the wrecks of American vessels, which you enclosed in your letter of the 14th instant, now before me. In reply I have to observe that on a full examination, that

that one of the three is preferred,  
 which bears on its face the single  
 star. It is hoped the medal will  
 not be heavier nor larger than a  
 \$20. gold coin of the United States, and  
 so fashioned as to be attachable by  
 two links to a simple rider bar-pin, to  
 be fastened to the coat-lapel. It is  
 suggested that the simple wreath on the oth-  
 er side, be quite near the edge so as to  
 leave ample room for engraving the name  
 of the recipient and the date and na-  
 ture of the service performed by him.  
 I return the card bearing the design preferred.

I am, Sir. Your obedient servant,

Oliver Hay  
 acting secretary

Enclosure - A photograph marked  
on the back "This"

671 1/2

State Department  
Washington D.C.  
July 16/80

John Hay  
Asst Sec'y

Selecting pho-  
tographic designs  
for medal for foreign  
seamen, rescuing  
people from ship-  
wrecked & man-  
-of-war vessels.

Recd July 17/80

[Abstract:] Selecting photographic design for medal for foreign seamen... 671 ½

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I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
John Hay  
Acting Secretary

Enclosure – A photograph marked on the back “This”.